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TO : RHOADS, JAMES B.

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SUBJECTS :

ACCESS TO MATERIALS IN PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARIES

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United States Senate

SELECT COMMITTEE TO
STUDY GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS WITH
RESPECT TO INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES

(PURSUANT TO S. RES. 21, 94TH CONGRESS)

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

Received NA-N

JUL 1 1975

June 30, 1975

Dr. James B. Rhoads
Archivist of the United States
National Archives and Records Services
Eighth Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20408

Dear Dr. Rhoads:

As the Select Committee proceeds with its investigation of the question of possible U.S. involvement in the assassination of foreign leaders, it finds that it needs to review minutes (or memoranda of conversation) from meetings of the National Security Council conducted during the Eisenhower, Kennedy and Johnson Administrations, as well as other NSC materials. We have recently ascertained that such material may be exclusively lodged in the Presidential libraries. Members of the Committee staff have been in touch with Dr. Reed and Mr. Jacobs of your staff. They indicated that NSC minutes should fall within the "section 11" category for White House documents--that is, documents to which the Archives can grant access on its own authority. They did indicate that you would, of course, consult with the White House; that should be no problem given the understanding the Committee has with the White House about access to documents necessary to the assassination inquiry. Our contact point at the White House is Mr. James Wilderotter (496-7094), who should be able to provide the necessary clearance.

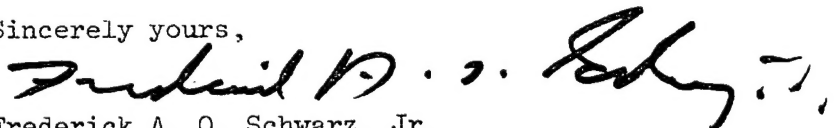
Members of the Committee staff have been in touch with the three libraries (Messrs. Wilson, Moss and Middleton), notifying them of our need to review NSC materials. We understand from them that an oral assurance from you that the clearance has been obtained will suffice. The members of the staff who will be reviewing those documents are (with the security clearances each possesses): David Aaron (TS/SI/TK/B), Karl R. Inderfurth (TS/SI/TK/B), Loch Johnson (TS/SI/TK/B), Robert

Kelley (TS/SI/TK/B), and Gregory F. Treverton (TS/SI/TK/B).

We are interested, of course, in documents which make mention of assassination or possible assassination; in addition, we would like to review those NSC materials which would assist us in setting the context of events we are examining. The countries and periods in which we are especially interested are: the Congo, from January 1960 through February 1961; the Dominican Republic, from January 1960 through July 1961; and Cuba, from mid-1959 through 1964.

Since the Committee intends to finish the assassination portion of its inquiry within the next month, and since next week will begin taking testimony to which the NSC documents may be relevant, it would be helpful if staff members could review the NSC materials later this week. We would appreciate your assisting in such expedition.

Sincerely yours,



Frederick A. O. Schwarz, Jr.

Copy to The Honorable James A. Wilderotter
Associate Counsel to the President